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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**1. Request for Continued Examination:**

The applicant respectfully requests continued examination of the above-indicated application as per 37 CFR 1.114.

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The amendments made to the claims in the above section are over the last entered amendment filed May 12, 2006.

2. Rejection of claims 1, 3-8, and 10-15 under 35 USC 103(a):

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Claims 1, 3-8, and 10-15 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Orito (US 6,072,912) in view of Toyofuku (US 5,289,000).

Response:

Claims 1, 3-8, and 10-15 have been amended to clarify the claim language and to more precisely claim the invention. No new matter has been added through these amendments, and all amendments are fully supported by the specification and figures.

Claims 1 and 8 each now specify that a plane light source projects plane light on the transparent platform. Then, the scanning module moves along a length of the transparent platform and generates a plurality of calibration signals at a plurality of positions respectively when no document is positioned on the transparent platform. Finally, the plurality of calibration signals are used to compensate respectively a plurality of scan signals generated by the scanning module at the plurality of positions when the document is positioned on the transparent platform and is scanned.

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Unlike both Orito and Toyofuku, the present invention projects plane light on the transparent platform. Due to non-uniform light distribution on the transparent platform, the plurality of calibration signals at the plurality of positions are generated in order to compensate for the inevitable non-uniform illumination on the transparent platform. In this way, the image of the scanned document can be compensated precisely at a plurality of positions, leading to clearer images than if the image is only compensated

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with a calibration signal at a single position.

On the other hand, Toyofuku teaches in column 12, line 28 and in Figure 1 that the elongated light source 106 emits line-type light, and is not plane light.

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Orito teaches scanning at a fixed position multiple times, but does not teach generating calibration signals for many different positions over a length of a transparent platform. Instead, Orito teaches in column 2, line 7-13 and line 49-52 that performing the calibration process with a mean calibration signal by re-scanning the calibration plate at a fixed position eight times and then averaging the eight sets of calibration data. In addition, Orito does not teach using a plane light source emits plane light and generating a plurality of calibration signals when no document is positioned on the transparent platform, and using the plurality of calibration signals to compensate respectively with a plurality of scan signals generated by the scanning module at the plurality of positions when the document is positioned on the transparent platform and is scanned. Therefore, none of the cited prior art references teaches projecting plane light on the transparent platform and the document.

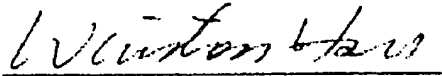
For these reasons, the applicant respectfully submits that the currently amended claims 1 and 8 are patentable over the combination of Orito and Toyofuku. Claims 3-7 and 10-15 are dependent on claims 1 and 8, and should be allowed if claims 1 and 8 are allowed. Reconsideration of claims 1, 3-8, and 10-15 is respectfully requested.

In view of the above arguments in favor of patentability, the applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

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Sincerely yours,



Date: 11/14/2006

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